



Attorney General Jon Bruning

NEWS RELEASE

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AG Bruning: LB 799 Strengthens Penalties for Negligent Child Abuse

LINCOLN – Attorney General Jon Bruning today applauded the Nebraska Legislature’s passage of LB 799. Part of the Attorney General’s 2012 legislative package, the bill establishes that negligent child abuse resulting in the death of a child is a Class III felony and negligent child abuse that results in serious bodily injury to a child is a Class IIIA felony. Previously, regardless of the injuries caused to the child, negligent child abuse was a misdemeanor offense.

“Prior to passage of this bill, people who negligently killed or seriously injured children were slapped on the wrist with misdemeanor punishments,” said Bruning. “This bill adds a layer of accountability for child abusers and allows prosecutors to seek punishment that is appropriate for the crime.”

With the passage of LB 799, Nebraska becomes the 14th state to charge negligent child abuse resulting in serious bodily injury or death as a felony.

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